

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

- 1-2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented): A fuel cell apparatus, comprising; a fuel cell for generating electricity by supplying a fuel pole with fuel gas and an oxidant pole with air, a washing liquid tank, disposed in a supply passage of the air, for reserving washing liquid, and a means for periodically replacing the washing liquid reserved in said washing liquid tank, wherein said washing liquid tanks are disposed in plurality in series on the air supply passage, and comprises a means for replacing periodically at least the washing liquid reserved in the washing liquid tank arranged upstream.
4. (Original): The fuel cell apparatus according to claim 3, wherein a plurality of washing liquid tanks reserving the same washing liquid are disposed differently from each other in the liquid level, and a lower washing liquid tank is supplied with the washing liquid from an upper washing liquid tank by the level difference.
- 5-10. (Cancelled)